

Message Text

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ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 /024 W

-----089391 230815Z /13

R 211601Z NOV 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO CDRDARCOM ALEX VA

INFO USDAO KINSHASA

SECSTATE WASHDC 0247

DA WASHDC/DALO-ILM

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MILI, MASS

SUBJECT: FMS CASE DA GABON UAA

REFS: A. CDRDARCOM 091721Z NOV 77

B. LIBREVILLE 2840

C. CDRDARCOM 181930Z NOV 77

1. CADILLAC GAHE REP HEDGES MET NOVEMBER 18 EITH
PRESIDENTIAL GUARD COMMANDER, GENERAL MARTIN. MARTIN
INSTISTED THAT OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE TRAINING FOR
V-150S BE CONDUCTED IN GABON SINCE "CULTURE SHOCK" OF
GABONESE GOING TO US TOO GREAT. REQUESTD THAT HEDGES
PRESENT ESTIMATE OF HOW LONG C-G REP COULD SPEND IN
GABON TRAINING FRENCH OFFICERS OF PRESIDENTIAL GUARD
FOR SAME PRICE AS AGREED UPON IN CASE UAA FOR STATESDIE
TRAINING. MARTIN EMPHASIZED THAT COST OF TRAINING WOULD
HAVE TO REMAIN WITHIN LIMITS OF ORIGINAL AGREEMENT DUE
TO BUDGET CONSTRAINTS.

. HEDGES AGREED TO PRESENT SUC A TIME ESTIMATE ALONG
WITH AN ALTERNATE PROPOSAL FOR A C-G REP TO REMAIN
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IN GABON ONE YEAR TO TR?6 40-50 GABONESE CADRE AND
TO PROVIDE AFTER SALES SERVICE. MARTIN WAS COOL
TOWARD THIS IDEA BUT AGREED TO EXAMINE FINISHED
PROPOSAL. HEDGES PROMISED TO SUBMIT BOTH PROPOSALS
TO GEN MARTIN BY DECEMBER 20.

3. GABONESE WILLING TO START IN COUNTRY TRAINING

ANY TIME.

4. HEDGES IMPRESSED UPON MARTN THAT FRENCH 90MM AMMUNITION IS NEITHER DESIGNED FOR NOR ADAPTABLE TO THE BELGIAN MECAR 90MM GUN. MARTIN GAVE ASSURANCES THAT HE WAS AWARE OF THIS PROBLEM AND THAT PROPER MUNITIONS WOULD BE PROCURED FROM BELGIUM.

5. COMMENT: HEDGES AND WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT FRENCH OFFICERS OF PRESIDENTIAL GUARD DESIRE AS LIMITED AN AMERICAN INFLUENCE AND PARTICIPATION AS POSSIBLE. YATES

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
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